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A state plow truck clears the snow along Route 30 in Jamaica, Vt., during a snowstorm on Friday, Dec. 16, 2022.

Associated Press

Arctic air will blast much of U.S. just before Christmas

By JEFF MARTIN and JULIE WALKER Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Forecasters are warning of treacherous holiday travel and lifethreatening cold for much of the nation as an arctic air mass blows into the alreadyfrigid southern United States.

"We're looking at much-below normal temperatures, potentially record-low temperatures leading up to the Christmas holiday," said Zack Taylor, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

The polar air arrives as an earlier storm system gradually winds down in the north-

eastern U.S. after burying parts of the region under two feet (61 centimeters) of snow. More than 80,000 customers in New England were still without power on Sunday morning, according to poweroutage. us, which tracks outages across the country.

The incoming artic front brings "extreme and prolonged freezing conditions for southern Mississippi and southeast Louisiana," the National Weather Service in a special weather statement Sunday.

Continued on Page 2

Investments for an Animal Control Department in 2023



E-Toko congratulates Ayaka di Oro winner







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Arctic air will blast much of U.S. just before Christmas

atures will plunge as low as 13 degrees (minus 10.6 Celsius) in Jackson, Mississippi; and around 5 degrees (minus 15 Celsius) in Nashville, Tennessee, the National Weather Service predicts. For much of the U.S., the winter weather will get worse before it gets better. The coming week has the potential for "the coldest air of the season" as the strong artic front marches

By Thursday night, temper- across the eastern twothirds of the country in the days before Christmas, according to the latest forecasts from the federal Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Maryland. The center warned of a "massive expanse of frigid temperatures from the Rockies/North-Northern ern Plains to the Midwest through the middle of the there — "not the hard-core week, and then reaching ones anyway," said Ja-

of the Eastern U.S. by Friday and into the weekend."

The arctic air was already pouring into Montana Sunday night, but that wasn't deterring residents from ice fishing and hunting coyotes.

Ice fishing will continue through the cold blast, since the temperatures won't scare away anglers the Gulf Coast and much son Mundel, who runs the



A man is covered in snow on Fenn Street in Pittsfield, Mass, Friday, Dec. 16, 2022.

Associated Press

Ripp'n Lipps Guide Service in northeastern Montana. Mundel said it was 4 degrees (minus 15.6 Celsius) there Sunday night, and a coyote contest was still going on in a nearby community. "Those guys are just

out in the elements, just

bundled up," he said.

In Atlanta, where temperatures are set to drop below freezing early Monday morning, forecasters warn of even colder air by late in the week, according to the National Weather Service office in Peachtree City, Georgia. The low Friday night in Atlanta will be around 13 degrees (minus 10.6 Celsius) with the high temperature Saturday still below the freezing mark at around 29 degrees (minus 1.7 Celsius), the Weather

Service projects. Freezing temperatures can take lives in an instant — a heartbreaking reality that Atlanta homeless advocate George Chidi knows firsthand.

He went to check on a woman with severe mental health issues in downtown Atlanta earlier this year, and found she had died of hours earlier. Her body was open 24 hours in the heart ous conditions.

of downtown Atlanta, he said. "She died within 100 feet of three heated buildings," Chidi said.

He said people without housing who die in freezing weather often do so because they are battling alcohol, drugs or severe mental illness, or they do not trust others and find themselves on the streets rather than a shelter with other people.

Homeless people in southern states are also vulnerable to its weather patterns that make it comfortable one week, but suddenly freezing the next.

"A main factor isn't the temperature itself," Chidi said. "It's the speed with which the temperature drops."

Florida will not have a white Christmas, but forecasters are expecting that weekend to be unusually cold throughout the state.

Northern Florida cities such as Jacksonville, Tallahassee and Pensacola have predicted lows in the 20s (minus 3 Celsius) on Christmas Eve, with highs of about 40 (4 Celsius).

In the Northeast, utilsuspected hypothermia just ity companies brought in extra workers from other found outside the Grey- states but were hampered hound bus station, which is by slick roads and danger-



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Anti-LGBTQ hate thrives online, spurs fears of more violence

By DAVID KLEPPER **Associated Press**

In the days after a gunman killed five people at a gay nightclub in Colorado last month, much of social media lit up with the now familiar expressions of grief, mourning and disbelief.

But on some online message boards and platforms, the tone was celebratory. "I love waking up to great news," wrote one user on Gab, a platform popular with far-right groups. Other users on the site called for more violence.

The hate isn't limited to fringe sites. On Twitter, You-Tube and Facebook, researchers and LGBTQ advocates have tracked an increase in hate speech and threats of violence directed at LGBTQ people, groups and events, with much of it directed at transgender people.

The content comes after conservative lawmakers in several states introduced dozens of anti-LGBTQ measures and amid a wave of threats targeting LGBTQ aroups, as well as hospitals, health care workers, libraries and private businesses that support them.

"I don't think people understand the state of danger that we're living in right now," said Jay Brown, senior vice president at the Human Rights Campaign and a transgender man. "A lot of that is happening on-



Attendees congregate at a rally against gender-affirming care at War Memorial Plaza in Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 21, 2022.

line, and online threats are turning into threats of real violence offline."

Hospitals in Boston, Pittsburgh, Phoenix, Washington, D.C., and other cities have received bomb threats and other harassing messages after misleading claims spread online about transgender care programs. In Tennessee, masked members of a white supremacist group showed up recently at a holiday charity event at a bookstore because the evening's entertainment included a drag performer. An upcoming holiday party at an adults-only gay nightclub scheduled for Friday was also the subject of threats. The party's theme? Ugly Christmas sweaters.

"And they're still coming after us? It's just straight up bigotry and hatred at this point," said Jessica Patterson, one of the organizers of the event, who noted that groups calling for violence against LGBTQ groups often espouse other bigotries too. "They just have to hate someone."

The transphobic content targeting events such as Patterson's is just a subset of the hateful content about Jews, Muslims, women, Black people, Asians and others that has internet safety advocates and an increasing number of lawmakers in the United States **Associated Press**

and elsewhere pushing for tougher regulations that would force tech companies to do more.

There's no simple explanation for the increase in hate speech documented by researchers recent years. Socio-economic caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, increased political polarization and resurgent far-right movements have all been blamed. So have politicians such as Donald Trump, whose brash use of social media emboldened extremists on-

"I've been tracking hatefueled extremist communities for more than 25 years but I've never seen hate

speech — let alone the calls for violence that they spark — reach the volume they have now," extremism researcher Rita Katz wrote in an email to The Associated Press.

Katz is co-founder of SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors far-right internet sites and has identified dozens of threats against LG-BTQ groups and events in the U.S. in recent months. SITE released a bulletin Thursday detailing death threats against drag performers after one appeared at the White House bill signing of the Respect for Marriage Act.

Researchers at the Center for Countering Digital Hate, a nonprofit with offices in the U.S. and United Kingdom, studied the social media messages that spread immediately after the Colorado Springs shooting in November and found many examples of far-right Trump supporters celebrating the carnage. The users who didn't praise the shooting often claimed it was faked by authorities and the media as a way to make conservatives look bad.

Online hate speech has been linked to offline violence in the past, and many of the perpetrators of recent mass shootings were later found to be immersed in online worlds of bigotry and conspiracy theories.

Biden marks 50th anniversary of death of wife, daughter

By COLLEEN LONG **Associated Press** WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) —

President Joe Biden and his family held a private memorial service Sunday to mark the 50th anniversary of the car crash that killed his first wife and their baby daughter.

Biden, who had just been elected to the Senate in November 1972, was

trailer on Dec. 18 of that raw openness around year as they went out to buy a Christmas tree. The couple's two sons, Beau and Hunter, who were just about to turn 4 and 3 at the time, were also in the car and were seriously injured. The tragedy almost in 1977 and they had a 30 when the accident women joined him on Sunhappened, to give up his day, as did Hunter and fledgling political career. many of the president's not in the car when his But on the advice of oth- grandchildren wife, 30-year-old Neilia, er senators he stayed in others at St. Joseph on and their 13-month-old office, commuting back the Brandywine Roman daughter, Naomi, were and forth from Washing- Catholic Church. After the broadsided by a tractor- ton to Delaware. Biden's service, the family walked

grief and his ability to empathize with fellow Americans who have experienced loss have become defining traits of his political career.

Biden married Jill Jacobs prompted Biden, also age daughter, Ashley. Both



President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden walk between tombstones to attend Mass at St. Joseph on the Brandywine Catholic Church in Wilmington, Del., on Sunday, Dec. 18, 2022. **Associated Press**

rying two large wreaths. Beau Biden died of brain cemetery.

out toward the graves car-cancer in 2015 at 46. He is also buried at the





People line up inside the migrant welcome center across from the bus station in Brownsville, Texas, on Friday, Dec. 16, 2022.

Texas border cities plan for cold, busy end to Title 4

By GIOVANNA DELL'ORTO, MORGAN LEE and ACACIA **CORONADO**

ASSOCIATED PRESS EL PASO, Texas (AP) —

Texas border cities were preparing Sunday for a surge of as many as 5,000 new migrants a day across the U.S.-Mexico border as pandemic-era immigration restrictions expire this week, setting in motion plans for providing emergency housing, food and other essentials.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego told The Associated Press the region, home to one of the busiest border crossings in the country, was coordinating housing and relocation efforts with NGOs and other cities, as well as calling on the state and federal government for humanitarian help as they prepare for an onslaught of new arrivals once public health rule Title 42 ends on Wednesday.

The rule has been used to deter more than 2.5 million migrants from crossing since March 2020.

Temperatures in the region ments to provide the addiwere set to drop below tional money. freezing this week, and on Sunday people wrapped in Red Cross blankets were seen walking near the airport.

allowing the Texas border the safest cities in the coun-

city access to additional local and state resources for building shelters and other urgently needed aid.

Samaniego said the order came one day after El Paso officials sent Texas Gov. Greg Abbott a letter requesting humanitarian assistance for the region, adding that the request was for resources to help tend to and relocate the newly arriving migrants, not additional security forces. Samaniego said he has re-

ceived no response to the request and plans to issue a similar county-wide emergency declaration specifying the kind of help the area needs if the city does not get state aid soon.

The City of El Paso announced Wednesday it received a new \$6 million commitment from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, but Samaniego said the area is still short millions of dollars it needs to house and provide food and aid to the new arrivals. He urged the state and federal govern-

"The strategy is in place, we know how to do this, all we need is the resources," Samaniego said. "We do not need someone to On Saturday, El Paso Mayor determine how it is being Oscar Leeser issued a state done or how it is going to of emergency declaration be done. We are one of

try. ...We are not asking for direction we are asking for resources."

Samaniego said city and county officials have been working closely with NGOs to provide temporary housing for migrants while they are processed and given sponsors, as well help in relocating them to bigger cities where they can be flown or bussed to their final destinations.

City and county officials will join forces with NGOs at a one-stop emergency command center beginning Wednesday, Samaniego said. Similar command centers have been established previously for COVID-19 response and following the deadly 2019 Walmart shooting in El Paso. Abbott has committed billions of dollars to "Operation Lone Star," an unprecedented border security effort that has included bussing migrants to so-called sanctuary cities like New York, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., as well as a massive presence of state troopers and National Guard along

the Texas-Mexico border. Additionally, the Republican Texas governor has pushed continued efforts to build former President Donald Trump's wall using mostly private land along the Texas-Mexico border and crowdsourcing funds to help pay for it.



A sign advises airline travelers not to bring their firearm through the Transportation Security Administration checkpoint on, July 28, 2022, during a media event about traveling with firearms at the Brownsville-South Padre Island International Airport in Brownsville, Texas.

Associated Press

TSA raising fines after finding record guns in carry-ons

By DEE-ANN DURBIN **AP Business Writer**

The Transportation Security Administration is raising the fine for people caught with a gun in their carry-on bag after intercepting a record number of firearms at security checkpoints this year.

The TSA said Friday it's raising the maximum fine to \$14,950. Previously it was \$13,910.

TSA officers have found 6,301 firearms in carry-on bags so far this year, surpassing the previous record of 5,972 detected in 2021. The numbers have been increasing steadily over the last decade; in 2012, 1,549 firearms were detected at security checkpoints.

Eighty-eight percent of the guns found this year were loaded, the TSA said.

Firearm possession laws vary by location, but guns are never allowed in carry-on bags at any airport security checkpoint, even if a passenger has a concealedweapon permit. Passengers transporting firearms must do so in a locked case in checked baggage. They also must declare them to the airline, the TSA said.

At a congressional hearing earlier this year, some lawmakers and airport administrators called for higher fines, gun safety classes for violators and other measures. They said the maximum fines were rarely imposed and clearly weren't working as a deterrent.

But other lawmakers said most of the passengers who get caught simply forgot they were carrying a gun, and higher fines won't stop that problem.

When the TSA finds a gun, it generally checks to see if it was stolen or involved in a previous crime. The agency may also confiscate the gun.

In addition to the fine _ an amount determined by the TSA based on the circumstances of each case the TSA will revoke PreCheck eligibility for at least five years for anyone caught with a gun at a security checkpoint. Passengers may also be arrested for a firearms violation depending on the state or local laws in the airport's location.



Anti-abortion priest Pavone defrocked for blasphemous posts

By NICOLE WINFIELD **Associated Press**

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican has defrocked an anti-abortion U.S. priest, Frank Pavone, for what it said were "blasphemous communications on social media" as well as "persistent disobedience" of his bishop.

A letter to U.S. bishops from the Vatican ambassador to the U.S., Archbishop Christophe Pierre, obtained Sunday, said the decision against Pavone, who heads the anti-abortion group Priests for Life, had been taken Nov. 9, and that there was no chance for an appeal.

Pavone had been investigated by his then-diocese of Amarillo, Texas, for having placed an aborted fetus on an altar and postina a video of it on two social media sites in 2016. He posts frequently about U.S. politics and abortion, and the video of the aborted fetus was accompanied by a post saying that Hillary Clinton and the Democratic platform would allow abortion to continue and that Donald Trump and the Republican platform want to protect unborn children. Pavone remains a firm supporter of Trump: His Twit-



Frank Pavone, head of Priests for Life, gives the Homily during a mass at Ave Maria University's Oratory in Naples, Fla., on March 31, 2009 to recognize the fourth anniversary of Terri Schiavo's death.

Associated Press

ter handle features him wearing a "MAGA" hat with a background photo featuring the former U.S. president, whom many conservatives praise for his Supreme Court nominees who overturned the landmark decision guaranteeing a constitutional right to abortion in the United

In a tweet Sunday, Pavone sounded defiant, comparing his fate to that of the unborn.

"So in every profession, including the priesthood, if you defend the #unborn, you will be treated like them! The only difference is that when we are "aborted," we continue to speak,

loud and clear."

His supporters immediately denounced the measure, including the bishop of Tyler, Texas, Joseph Strickland, who referred to U.S. President Joe Biden's support for abortion rights as "evil."

"The blasphemy is that this holy priest is canceled while an evil president promotes the denial of truth & the murder of the unborn at every turn, Vatican officials promote immorality & denial of the deposit of faith & priests promote gender confusion devastating lives...evil," Strickland tweeted.

Pavone had appealed to the Vatican over restric-

tions placed on his ministry in 2011 by the Amarillo bishop, succeeded in getting the restrictions eased, and relocated away from Texas while remaining active with Priests for Life.

In his letter, Pierre cited information from the Congregation for Clergy that Pavone had been laicized - he can no longer present himself as a priest — after being found guilty in a canonical proceeding "of blasphemous communications on social media and of persistent disobedience of the lawful instructions of his diocesan bishop." The letter was first reported by Catholic News Agency.

The statement said Pavone was given "ample opportunity to defend himself" as well as to submit to his bishop. "It was determined that Father Pavone had no reasonable justification for his actions."

The statement concluded that since Priests for Life is not a Catholic organization, it would be up to the group to determine whether he could continue his role "as a lay person."

Laicization, or being reduced to the lay state, is one of the harshest sanctions in the church's canon law.

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A fish lays in the debris in front of a hotel where an huge aquarium has burst in Berlin, Germany, Friday, Dec. 16, 2022.

Associated Press

pany that helped build a huge aquarium in Berlin says it is sending a team to investigate the rupture of the tank, which sent

BERLIN (AP) — A U.S. com- a wave of debris, water and tropical fish crashing through the hotel lobby it was located in and onto the street outside.

Reynolds Polymer Technol-

ogy, which says it manufactured and installed the cylinder component of the AquaDom tank 20 years ago, said in an emailed statement that "at this point, it is too early to determine the factor or factors that would produce such a failure."

Police have said they found no evidence of a malicious act but the cause of the spectacular collapse shortly before 6 a.m. on Friday, in which two people were slightly injured, remains unclear. Berlin's top security official, Iris Spranger, told German news agency dpa on Friday that "first indications point to material fa-

About 400 to 500 mostly

small fish from a separate set of aquariums housed under the hotel lobby were evacuated to other tanks in a neighboring aquarium that was unaffected.

The AquaDom aquarium opened in December 2003 and was modernized in 2020.

Grand Junction, Coloradobased Reynolds Polymer, which says on its website that 41 of its acrylic panels were used in building the tank cylinder, said it "offers its sincere concern" to the hotel guests and workers who were affected and to those who were injured. It said that "we are also deeply saddened by the animals and aquatic life lost."



NECESARY FOR TOURS



Jewish festival of lights begins in Ukraine as battles rage

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Jews in Ukraine waging a "war between darkness and light" lit a giant menorah on Sunday night to start the eight-day Hanukkah holiday as tens of thousands remained without electricity and Russia's nearly 10-month war produced new victims.

Dozens gathered in Maidan Independence Square in the capital, Kyiv, at sundown for the lighting of the first candle of what local Jewish leaders say is Europe's tallest menorah. Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko joined ambassadors from Israel, the United States, Japan, Poland, Canada and France in a ceremony organized by the Federation of Jewish Communities of Ukraine. They sang blessings under the flames of the menorah, which towered over the crowd and passing cars in frigid weather.

Rabbi Mayer Stambler, a leader of Ukraine's Jewish community, drew parallels to the story of Hanukkah, an eight-day commemoration of the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees after their victory over the Syrians more than 2,000 years ago. When only enough oil



Ukrainians take photos of a newly built Christmas tree as partial power outages continue in Kyiv, Ukraine, Saturday, Dec. 17, 2022.

Associated Press will end," she said.

The Israeli ambassador to Ukraine, Michael Brodsky, said: "I wish for the people of Ukraine all of that which Hanukkah symbolizes. I wish there was light on every Ukrainian house ... and I wish you victory."

Volunteers distributed thousands of menorahs, candles, printed materials, family puzzle games and sweets for the holiday to members of Ukraine's Jewish minority population.

With the holiday symbolism as a backdrop, Ukraine's state-owned power grid operator Ukrenergo said

Sunday electricity restoration work from Russian missile damage was continuina. It said the volume of electricity consumption increased compared to Saturday, due to falling temperatures.

On the battlefield, Russian military forces on Sunday shelled the center of Kherson, the major city that Russian soldiers retreated from last month in one of Moscow's biggest battlefield setbacks in Ukraine.

Three people were wounded in the attacks, said presidential deputy chief of staff Kyrylo Tymoshenko.

The southern city and its surrounding region have come under frequent attack since the Russian pullback. Regional governor Yaroslav Yanushevych said Sunday that Russia had carried out 54 attacks with rocket, mortar and tank fire over the previous day, killing three people and wounding six.

Meanwhile, in Russia, the governor of the Belgorod region, Vyacheslav Gladkov, said Sunday that one person was killed and eight wounded in Ukrainian shelling of the region, which lies along Ukraine's northern border.

In the latest phase of the war, Moscow's forces have been heavily targeting infrastructure serving civilians, such as water and electricity supply lines, compounding Ukrainians' suffering as winter approaches.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy used the final of the soccer World Cup to decry war.

"This World Cup proved time and again that different countries and different nationalities can decide who is the strongest in fair play but not in the playing with fire — on the green playing field, not on the red battlefield," Zelenskyy said in an English video statement released hours before the final in Qatar between Argentina and France.

her hope during the Dewas available to keep the cember days with the least sunlight of the year. temple candles lit for one "There will be light and evday and night, the oil inexerything will be fine for evplicably burned for eight eryone. And finally the war days and eight nights - a

In this Tuesday, March 5, 2019, file photo, an employee in protective clothing works with a steel pouring ladle during a guided media tour at the steel producer Salzgitter AG in Salzaitter.

Associated Press

By FRANK JORDANS **Associated Press** BERLIN (AP) — European Union aovernments and lawmakers reached a deal Sunday on key elements of

the 27-nation bloc's green deal, reforming the EU's trading system for greenhouse gas emissions and creating a new hardship fund for those hardest-hit the previous rules.

feat now celebrated as the

"We are actually now liv-

ing through the same situa-

tion," said Stambler, draw-

ing a parallel with the cur-

rent blackouts in Ukraine

that Russian bombard-

ments have caused. "This

is a war between darkness

and light." Among those

watching was 47-year-old

Viktoria Herman, who said

the festival of lights brought

Jewish Festival of Lights.

EU reaches deal on emissions trading, social climate fund

by measures to curb climate change. The two sides agreed to push European industries and energy companies to cut their emissions by speeding up the phase-out of free pollution vouchers. Doing so makes each ton of carbon dioxide that's released into the atmosphere more expensive for polluters.

The EU's executive Commission said the measure would require European industries to reduce their emissions by 62% by 2030 from 2005 levels, compared to a target of 43% under

To ensure a level playing field, the EU will also introduce a tax on foreign companies that want to import products which don't meet climate-protection dards European companies have to comply with. The so-called Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism was agreed to last week. Governments and the Eu-

ropean Parliament also agreed to extend the bloc's emissions trading system to cover road transport and the heating of buildings from 2027. This is likely to raise the price of gasoline, natural gas and

other fossil fuels for consumers, providing an incentive to switch to cleaner alternatives.

The deal includes an emergency clause allowing the introduction to be postponed by a year if energy costs are particularly high. Against the backdrop of the current energy crisis that has stoked inflation in Europe and beyond, negotiators agreed to also create a social climate fund that will help vulnerable households and small businesses cope with higher costs for fuel arising from the new measures. \square

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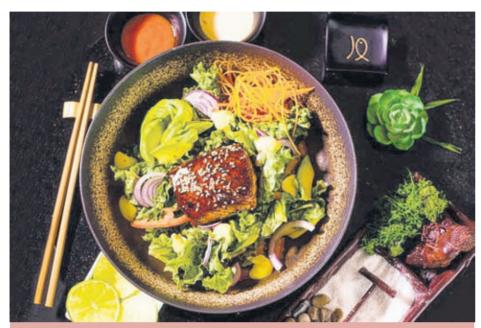
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Nikkei Sushi Bar, not just a sushi bar



Nikkei is a name commonly used in Japan to refer to people of Japanese ancestry that are living abroad as citizens of other countries. It refers to the mix of cuisine and culture of the Japanese migrants in Peru. In time, successive generations created the cuisine that is generally known as Nikkei.

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E-Toko congratulates Ayaka di Oro winner

The winner of the Antillian culinary competition 'buskando e ayaka di oro' 2022 is Crystal Haseth. During the well-attended first edition of the Antillean Christmas market, this ayaka maker was awarded the title of best ayaka maker in the Netherlands and Belgium.

The winner of buskando e ayaka di Oro 2022 is Crystal Haseth. By winning this gastronomic competition, her ayaka is officially the best ayaka of the Netherlands and Belgium. An ayaka is a delicacy eaten around Christmas time on the ABC-Islands.

E-Toko, the main sponsor of the event, also provided the reward. E-Toko's director Jason Steba and head of marketing Gabriel Schobbe presented the prize to the winner. The prize consisted

of a winner's certificate, a an culinary contest and the



cash prize of € 250 and the opportunity to sell ayakas via E-Toko's online store.

The ayakas were judged on: shape, consistency, sauce, taste and content of the ayakas. Participants were judged on stage by a jury panel consisting of three chefs: Jurino Ignacio, Dayèhne Nowels and Tyron Vrutaal. Crystal from "ayaka di oma" won the Antillean culinary contest and the

title "Ayaka di Oro". Freely translated: Golden ayaka.

"We conceived and organized this event with the idea of giving ayaka makers a platform to connect with ayaka lovers and to settle the discussion at the office about who has the tastiest ayaka," says Jason Steba, director of E-Toko. Next year "Buskando e ayaka di oro" will take place again.







Short history of the beginnings of baseball in Aruba











ORANJESTAD — Baseball was played on the island of Aruba in the 1930's, but only by United States expatriates working for LAGO and living inside the LAGO colony. Jim Bluejacket, the legendary US Indian who had played in two major league teams, worked for LAGO during 14 years and was a key factor in the growth of the popularity of the game in the colony. There is no record of Bluejacket ever playing outside the colony.

Outside the colony, the game of baseball was introduced to Aruba by Venezuelan immigrants and sailors on the Venezuelan fishing boats that used Aruba as their home port. They formed pick-up teams and played games on Sundays on an open field behind what is now the Court of Justice. One of the Venezuelans that comes to mind is Felix Garrido, grandfather of our current Prime-Minister.

In the late 30s the leader of this group was Raúl Aparicio, a cousin of Luis Aparicio who is now enshrined in the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The Aparicios were evidently very good at sports. Raúl had two brothers who also played baseball, René and Roman. Rosendo, his only brother who did not play baseball became a professional soccer player in the Venezuelan league. Rosendo was nicknamed "Cabeza de oro" (golden head) for a memorable header he scored to win a game for his team.

Interestingly, it was in Aruba that Luis Aparicio played his first game outside of Venezuela. This took place in 1950 when he played shortstop for the school he attended. Later he played for "Cabimas" in a doubleheader of the Venezuelan Western League. These official games of the league were authorized to be played in Aruba by the Professional Baseball Organization of Venezuela. Several others who played in those games have also been enshrined.

Luis Aparicio's father was the super popular Luis "El Grande" (the great one) after whom the baseball stadium in Maracaibo is named. He and his brother owned the professional baseball teams "Gavilanes" which later became the "Aguilas", and the "Cabimas".

In the early '40s, another group, mostly immi-

grants from the Dominican Republic also became very active with pickup teams. Some of these remained active in baseball well into the early '50s; as umpires, managers even as players. Among these were Nestor "Pantin" Guerrero who also had a musical band. Perhaps not so coincidentally, many of Pantin's players were also musicians. Luthai Pantophlet who umpired many years was a well-known drummer. Gaston Hazel was a bongo player; José Bryson and the brothers Nicholson, Teddy and Julio, all played several instruments.

In San Nicolas, baseball was played on the grounds next to where the LAGO Sport Park (now Laveist Sport Park) was officially inaugurated in March 1941.

During the WWII years, baseball got a big lift from the influx of Puerto Rican and US soldiers stationed here. As LAGO was playing a very important role in the struggle against Hitler, it was able to get all the sports equipment needed here to allow more people to participate.

In the '40s only the Lago Sports Park organized baseball championship games. The first teams to participate were Artraco, (Aruba Trading Co.), Esso Garage and Botica San Lucas. In 1945 Venezuelan employees of the Lago refinery participated under the name of "Cafenol", a very popular Venezuelan coffee brand. Two other groups of Venezuelan immigrants formed the teams "Cerveceria" (named after the iconic team Cerveceria Caracas), and "Venezuela", although not all members of these teams were Venezuelans. This was also the year that the team sponsored by Roxy Café started to play as "Dodgers".

Dodgers became the dominant baseball powerhouse till the 1950s.

Other teams that entered the baseball scene in the late 1940s: Pepsi Cola (Oranjestad) and St. Thomas Boys (former students of St. Thomas College, Oranjestad). "Baby Ruth" in San Nicolas played initially under the name "Camel" and "Barnes` Ramblers" the only team consisting of Lago Colony players to participate in the Lago Sport Park championships. "Red Rock Cola" was formed in Oranjestad in 1950.

In 1952 the team Pepsi Cola became "Nesbitt's" and had players of seven countries, including two American expats from Lago Colony.

In 1950 a group of prominent members of the Aruba community founded the Amateur Baseball Bond of Aruba (ABBA) to give structure to the management of the sport and became the organizers of official championship games. While maintaining the existing teams in a league that was referred to as A-class, ABBA established a B-class league in which the "Budweiser' and "Braves" played the first years.

By 1952 Aruba became a member of the International Amateur Baseball Association and fielded a team managed by Joe Proterra, (former pitcher of "Barnes' Ramblers"), that would play for the first time ever in the Amateur Baseball World Series that took place in Havana, Cuba in September. Surprisingly, Aruba won two of its six games and became the darling of the Havana fans. Nell Harms of the Aruban team was named the "Outstanding player of the week" for his performance against Honduras. He allowed just two hits, struck out 15 and hit the only homerun of the game. Joe Cambria, the famous scout for the Washington Senators offered him a contract, but Nel was not interested, but the next year, at the Amateur Baseball World Series in Caracas, Venezuela, Nel and Ruben Phillips did sign and in 1954 they played professional baseball the Georgia-Florida League and the Texas-New Mexico League. They were the first Arubans to play professionally, but not the only ones.

During the games in Havana, contacts were made with the organizers of Little League Baseball in Cuba which eventually resulted in the introduction of Little League in Aruba. Little League of Aruba has been extremely successful: It has produced many players who earned baseball scholarships at universities in the United States, a few who played professionally in the Netherlands and different countries in the Caribbean and five who reached the major leagues: Calvin Maduro, Eugene Kingsale, Radhames Dijkhoff, Sydney Ponson, and Xander Bogaerts one of the brightest stars of Boston Red Sox.



Minister of Transport, Integrity, Nature and Senior Affairs, Mr. Ursell Arends Investments for an Animal Control Department in 2023

ORANJESTAD – Last week, minister of Transport, Integrity, Nature and Senior Affairs, Mr. Ursell Arends announced the microchipping campaign for local pets, in order to help fight the issue of cats and dogs on the street. This is a topic that has been discussed for many years, particularly the lack of housing for dogs that are taken off the streets.

During a press conference, Arends pointed out that he is aware of the problem caused by a large amount of dogs on the streets in many neighborhoods in Aruba. However, aside from this problem, even though dogs can be rescued off the streets, the available space for housing these dogs is very limited

The Dog Control Center (CCC) is where dogs and cats are taken when they are rescued from the street and have no owner. At the CCC there is enough space for a total of eight dogs, the minister informed. There is space for puppies and very limited space for cats. "In my opinion it is not the most humane form either to attend to the cats", he added.

Seeing the dire situation regarding space for these animals, the minister mentioned that in the 2023 budget there are funds allocated for the government of Aruba to invest in an Animal Control Department.

"These are the steps were going to take to improve where these dogs are placed when they are caught and removed from the street. I know that the problem exists in a lot of neighborhoods, it is a problem for years already, and we are approaching this problem aggressively right now", Arends added.

With the microchipping campaign, the minister explains, they hope that they can help minimize the amount of dogs on the street by using information that will help locate the owners of dogs that are on the streets while belonging to a household. "I hope that the community can understand the steps we are taking and instead of



giving resistance, collaborate and keep their dogs in their yards."

He pointed out that once the dogs are microchipped, they can be returned to their homes more easily. Arends commented that many times when dogs are found on the street, the neighborhood itself is aware that the dog has an owner, but it is difficult to locate the owner. The microchip will make it easier to bring the dog back home to its own family.

ATA Latin American team met with partners in Aruba















ORANJESTAD – As part of Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA)'s strategy, there are different moments throughout the year when meetings are held with partners in Aruba, as well as ATA's team in each market. Recently, the Latin American Marketing Update Meeting took place, where more details were presented about the plan and objective for 2023 to local partners.

The meeting took place at the Hyatt Place Aruba Airport, where an extensive presentation was given on what can be expected in the 2023 marketing plan for Aruba. Those present received some new and out-of-the-box ideas to market the island of Aruba abroad, and attract even more visitors to our island.

The Latin American market took a little longer to reopen after the pandemic compared to North America and Europe, but it's worth noting that the recovering is ongoing for this market as well. Until November, a recovery of 76 percent was noted in the amount of visitors from Latin America compared to the same period for 2019, so it is expected that this recovery will continue, since the market indicates that the demand is there. The main recovery at this moment is coming from Colombia, where numbers indicated that we are practically reaching the 2019 level once again.

Taking advantage of having all partners together, gratitude was expressed for their cooperation to the recovery and some of the partners who produced the most, but also those who took part in different marketing initiatives and were interested in continuing growing this market, received a special certificate. Regarding hotels, recognition was given to Brickell Bay Beach Club & Spa, Barcelo Aruba, Eagle Aruba Resort & Casino, RIU and Holiday Inn Aruba. De Palm Tours also received recognition in the area of activities.

ATA thanks every partner supporting the Latin American market, which makes the strategy for diversification possible. For 2023, ATA will continue focusing on diversifying our visitors to have a healthy distribution of visitors from different regions.



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

39 Lewd

DOWN

2 Car

1 Bathroom

fixture

praise

7 Wolfish

producers

8 Spark

9 Syrup

choice

1 Clutter looks 5 Course 40 Winter glider sport 9 Chop up

ACROSS

41 Finishes 10 Grownup

12 Atmosphere component 13 Brown shade

part 3 Teatime 14 Darkroom treat output 4 Dis-16 Bed-andpatched breakfast 5 Neon or 17 Solitary helium 18 Garden 6 Poem of

growths 21 Before, to bards 22 Barters 23 Light bender 24 Salad

makeup 26 Simple card game 29 Mars, for one 30 Pilaf grains 31 Jar part 32 Work periods 34 Labor group

37 Fancy

38 Long

look



Saturday's answer

25 Tire type

29 Added to

30 Out of bed

11 Brown shades 15 Quick runs 19 Highlands

26 Reacted to a sting 27 Cast members 28 Work girl **20 USN** breaks

bigwig 22 Pine or palm 23 Writing

33 Story 35 Bauxite, tool for one 24 Brilliant 36 Homer's flashes neighbor



AXYDLBAAXR **KLONGFELLOW**

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three Us, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different,

12-19 CRYPTOQUOTE

EGKI MGJX YGV WGYXOXV FZPQYF ZV JZWI GVIJL. HAV QY EGGUQYE GAVSZLM VGFJVIJI. QY VIJ XZCJ MQLIWVQGY.

— ZYVGQYJ MJ XZQYV-JBANJI.D. Saturday's Cryptoquote: THE PROPER RESPONSE, AS HANUKKAH TEACHES, IS NOT TO CURSE THE DARKNESS BUT TO LIGHT A CANDLE. — IRVING GREENBERG

Twitter bans linking to Facebook, Instagram, other rivals

By MATT O'BRIEN and BRIAN P. D. HANNON

Associated Press

Twitter users will no longer be able to link to certain rival social media websites, including what the company described Sunday as "prohibited platforms" Facebook, Instagram and Mastodon.

It's the latest move by Twitter's new owner Elon Musk to crack down on certain speech after he shut down a Twitter account last week that was tracking the flights of his private jet.

"We know that many of our users may be active on other social media platforms; however, going forward, Twitter will no longer allow free promotion of specific social media platforms on Twitter," the company said in a statement.

The banned platforms include mainstream websites such as Facebook and Instagram, and upstart rivals Mastodon, Tribel, Nostr, Post and former President Donald Trump's Truth Social. Twitter gave no explanation for why the blacklist included those seven websites but not others such as

Parler, TikTok or LinkedIn. Twitter said it will at least temporarily suspend accounts that include the banned websites in their profile. However, the practice is so widespread that it's not clear if — or how the company will enforce the restrictions on Twitter's millions of users around the world. Twitter previously took action to block links to one of its rivals, Mastodon, after its main Twitter account tweeted about the @ElonJet controversy last week. Mastodon has grown rapidly in recent weeks as an alternative for



A Twitter logo hangs outside the company's San Francisco offices on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022.

Associated Press

Twitter users who are unhappy with Musk's overhaul of Twitter since he bought the company for \$44 billion in late October and began restoring accounts that ran afoul of the previous Twitter leadership's rules against hateful conduct and other harms.

Some Twitter users have included links to their new Mastodon profile and encouraged followers to find them there. That's now banned on Twitter, as are attempts to bypass restrictions such as by spelling out "instagram dot com" and a username instead of a direct website link.

Instagram and Facebook parent company Meta didn't return requests for comment Sunday. Twitter said it will still allow "paid advertisement/promotion" from the otherwise banned platforms, as well as "crossposting" some content originating from the banned sites. Musk permanently banned the @ElonJet account on Wednesday, then changed Twitter's rules to prohibit the sharing of another person's current location without their consent. He then took aim at jour-

nalists who were writing about the jet-tracking account, which can still be found on other sites including Mastodon, Facebook, Instagram and Truth Social, alleging that they were broadcasting "basically assassination coordinates."

He used that to justify Twitter's moves last week to suspend the accounts of numerous journalists who cover the social media platform and Musk, among them reporters working for The New York Times, Washington Post, CNN, Voice of America and other publications. Many of those accounts were restored following an online poll by Musk. Then, over the weekend, The Washington Post's Taylor Lorenz became the latest journalist to be temporarily banned from Twitter. Lorenz said she and another Post technology reporter were researching an article concerning Musk. She had tried to communicate with the billionaire but the attempts went unanswered, so she tried to contact him Saturday by posting a message on Twitter tagging Musk and requesting an interview.

The specific topic was not disclosed in the tweet, although it was in response to Musk tweeting about an alleged incident earlier in the week involving a "violent stalker" in Southern California and Musk's claims that journalists were revealing his family's location by referencing the jettracker account.



Starving seabirds on Alaska coast show climate change peril

By CHRISTINA LARSON AP Science Writer

washington (AP) — Dead and dying seabirds collected on the coasts of the northern Bering and southern Chukchi seas over the past six years reveal how the Arctic's fast-changing climate is threatening the ecosystems and people who live there, according to a report released Tuesday by U.S. scientists.

Local communities have reported numerous emaciated bodies of seabirds including shearwaters, auklets and murres — that usually eat plankton, krill or fish, but appear to have had difficulty finding sufficient food. The hundreds of distressed and dead birds are only a fraction of ones that starved, scientists say. "Since 2017, we've had multi-species seabird dieoffs in the Bering Strait region," said Gay Sheffield, a biologist at University of Alaska Fairbanks, based in Nome, Alaska and a coauthor of the report. "The one commonality is emaciation, or starvation."

The seabirds are struggling because of climate-linked ecosystem shifts — which can affect the supply and the timing of available food — as well as a harmful algal bloom and a viral outbreak in the region, she said.

And their peril jeopardizes the human communities, as well: "Birds are essential to our region — they are

Downtown



A northern fulmar bird skims the water while flying over the Bering Sea off the coast of Alaska, Friday, July 14, 2017.

Associated Press

nutritionally and economically essential," said Sheffield.

The data on seabirds is part of an annual report released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, called the "Arctic Report Card," that documents changes in a region warming faster than anywhere else on Earth.

"With climate change, the food chain is changing rapidly," said Don Lyons, a conservation scientist at the National Audubon Society's Seabird Institute, who was not involved in the report. "Food isn't predictable in the way it used to be, in terms of where the food is, at different times of the year."

While seabirds naturally experience some lean years, the report documents a worrying pattern, said Lyons. "It seems like we've passed a tipping point — we've moved into a new regime where events that we used to think of as rare and unusual are now com-

mon and frequent."

In the past year, Arctic annual surface air temperatures were the sixth warmest since records began in 1900, the report found. And satellite records revealed that for several weeks last summer, large regions near the North Pole were virtually clear of sea ice.

"The sea ice extent was much lower than long-term average," said Walt Meier, a sea ice expert at the University of Colorado Boulder and a co-author of the report.

"The most notable thing we saw was during the summer, we saw a lot of open-water areas up near the North Pole, which was once very rare," he said. "Several kilometers with very little or no ice, within a couple hundred kilometers



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Weststraat 22 T: 582-7800 E: news@arubatoday.com W: www.arubatoday.com @ @arubatoday of the North Pole."

"The changes that are happening in the Arctic are so fast and so profound," said Peter Marra, a conservation biologist at Georgetown University, who was not involved in the report. Seabirds are metaphorical canaries in the coal mines, when it comes to showing broader ecosystem changes, Marra said, adding, "We need to do a much better job of monitoring these sentinel populations."



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Jenkins' pick-6 in OT gives Jaguars 40-34 win over Cowboys

By The Associated Press JACKSONVILLE, Flg. (AP)

 Rayshawn Jenkins intercepted Dak Prescott's bobbled pass and returned it 52 yards for a touchdown that gave the Jacksonville Jaguars a 40-34 victory over the Dallas Cowboys in overtime Sunday.

Noah Brown failed to secure Prescott's low throw, and Jenkins made a shoelace grab and went untouched the other way to end Jacksonville's NFL-record 20-game skid against NFC teams.

The Cowboys (10-4) ended a five-game winning streak and failed to secure a playoff spot. Jacksonville (6-8), meanwhile, could gain ground on Tennessee in the topsy-turvy AFC South.

Jacksonville won the toss in overtime and had a chance to win it with Trevor Lawrence, who threw for 318 yards and four touchdowns. But the Jaguars went three-and-out, giving the Cowboys a chance to win after squandering a 27-10 lead. Prescott's thirddown pass proved to be a difference-maker.

Prescott completed 23 of 30 passes for 256 yards, with three touchdowns and two interceptions. Two of his TD passes went to Brown.

Prescott found Brown for a 13-yard score with 3:02 remaining. Lawrence fumbled while scrambling on the ensuing possession, but he got the ball back and drove his team into position for Riley Patterson's 40-yard, game-tying field goal on the final play of regulation. Lawrence threw three TD passes to Zay Jones. Travis Etienne ran for 103 yards.

CHIEFS 30, TEXANS 24, OT

HOUSTON (AP) — Jerick McKinnon ran for a 26-yard touchdown in overtime and Kansas City beat Houston to clinch its seventh straight AFC West title.

The Chiefs (11-3) got the ball first in overtime but had to punt after Patrick Mahomes was sacked by Blake Cashman on third down. Texans quarterback Davis Mills fumbled on a scramble on Houston's first play, and it was recovered by Kansas City's Willie Gay



Jacksonville Jaguars safety Rayshawn Jenkins (2) celebrates with fans after an interception during the second half of an NFL football game against the Dallas Cowboys, Sunday, Dec. 18, 2022, in Jacksonville, Fla.

Associated Press

on the Texans 26.

McKinnon, who also had a TD reception, dashed untouched into the end zone on the next play.

Mahomes threw for 336 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a score as Kansas City overcame two turnovers and a seasonhigh 102 penalty yards to win for the seventh time in eight games.

The Chiefs trailed most of the day. Mahomes dashed 5 yards into the end zone early in the fourth quarter and hit McKinnon for the 2-point conversion to give Kansas City a 24-21 lead. Houston (1-12-1) tied it on Ka'imi Fairbairn's 29-yard field goal with 5:11 left in regulation.

Mills threw for 121 yards and two touchdowns while sharing time at quarterback with Jeff Driskel. The Texans dropped their ninth straight game, their longest skid since losing the final 14 games of the 2013 season.

LIONS 20, JETS 17

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Jared Goff threw a CHICAGO (AP) — Jalen go-ahead 51-yard touch- Hurts tied a career high by down pass to Brock Wright on fourth-and-1 with 1:49 remaining, and Detroit held on to beat Zach Wilson and New York.

Coming out of the two-minute warning, Goff looked to his left and found Wright wide open, and the tight

end rumbled untouched into the end zone.

Wilson and the Jets had one more chance. He completed a 20-yard pass to Elijah Moore on fourth down, setting up Greg Zuerlein for a 58-yard field-goal try. But the kick went wide left, sending the Lions (7-7) to their third straight win and sixth in their past seven games.

The loss further damaged the playoff hopes for the Jets (7-7), who are looking to snap an 11-year postseason drought.

Wilson threw a go-ahead 1-yard touchdown pass to C.J. Uzomah with 4:41 remaining. Starting after being benched for three games, Wilson finished 18 of 35 for 317 yards with two touchdown throws to Uzomah — and a costly interception. Wilson played in place of Mike White, who's dealing with fractured ribs. Goff was 23 of 38 for 252 yards and the touchdown to Wright.

EAGLES 25, BEARS 20

running for three touchdowns and Philadelphia outlasted Chicago.

The Eagles (13-1), with the best record in the NFL, made just enough plays to come away with a tighterthan-anticipated win.

Chicago's Justin Fields

rushed for 95 yards to reach exactly 1,000 on the season, joining Michael Vick and Lamar Jackson as the only quarterbacks to rush for 1,000 or more. He also set a franchise singleseason rushing record for a QB. But the Bears (3-11) lost their seventh straight game — their worst skid since dropping eight in a row in 2002 to match a franchise record.

Hurts is also closing in on history as a rusher. He has 13 rushing touchdowns, one short of the NFL record for a QB, set by Cam Newton during his rookie year in 2011.

Hurts finished with 61 yards rushing and has 747 this season. He also threw for 315 yards, completing 22 of 37 passes with two interceptions.

Fields hit a wide-open Byron Pringle for a 35-yard touchdown that pulled Chicago within five with 2:43 remaining, but the Bears didn't get the ball back.

STEELERS 24, PANTHERS 16

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — 179 yards and engineered three long touchdown drives as Pittsburgh dealt a major blow to Carolina's playoff hopes.

Trubisky, filling in for concussed rookie Kenny Pickett, ran for a 1-yard touchdown and played turnoverfree football. Naiee Harris carried 24 times for 86 yards and a touchdown and Jaylen Warren added a 2-yard TD run for Pittsburgh (6-8), which has won three of its last four.

The Panthers (5-9) entered the weekend in control of their playoff destiny, needing four wins in four games to win the unimpressive NFC South.

But Carolina, a run-first team, couldn't get anything going on the ground. The Panthers managed just 21 yards on 16 carries as the Steelers stacked the box and dared Sam Darnold to beat them.

Darnold finished 14 of 23 for 225 yards with a 5-yard touchdown pass to D.J. Moore. But he was sacked four times, and the Panthers struggled in the red zone.

Trubisky led the Steelers on touchdown drives of 67 and 75 yards on Pittsburgh's first two possessions. Pittsburgh got the ball to start the second half and put together a 21-play, 91-yard drive that took nearly 12 minutes off the clock, culminating in Trubisky's QB sneak for a TD.

SAINTS 21, FALCONS 18

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Andy Dalton and Taysom Hill combined to throw three touchdown passes, and New Orleans beat Atlanta in rookie quarterback Desmond Ridder's debut.

Juwan Johnson had career-high 67 yards receiving and caught both of Dalton's scoring passes. Hill, a utility player who lines up mostly at tight end, threw his second touchdown pass of the season on a 73-vard connection with rookie receiver Rashid Shaheed.

New Orleans (5-9) remained mathematically alive in the anemic NFC

Atlanta (5-9) was down by a field goal and threating Mitch Trubisky threw for to score with less than three minutes remaining when Ridder hit Drake London over the middle for firstdown yardage on fourthand-5. But safety Justin Evans punched the ball from London's grasp, and cornerback Bradley Robey snagged it out of the air.



Messi wins World Cup to push claim to be soccer's GOAT

By JAMES ROBSON AP Soccer Writer

LUSAIL, Qatar (AP) — After finally winning the World Cup, Lionel Messi made his strongest case yet to be considered soccer's greatest player of all time.

It will never be possible to say definitively, though, even after Argentina's 4-2 penalty shootout victory over France on Sunday in the final at Lusail Stadium. Messi has been his country's inspiration throughout the tournament in Qatar and scored twice in the game that finished 3-3 through extra time.

"It's just crazy that it became a reality this way," Messi said. "I craved for this so much. I knew God would bring this gift to me. I had the feeling that this was the one."

Kylian Mbappe certainly made Messi work for a golden trophy that had eluded him throughout his storied career.

The France forward scored a hat trick as the defending champions came back from 2-0 down and then evened the match again after Messi made it 3-2 in extra time.

But this was Messi's night and Messi's World Cup.

"It took so long, but here it is," Messi said. "We suffered a lot, but we managed to do it."

For some, no one will ever surpass Pele, who won the World Cup three times with Brazil.

Even in Messi's homeland of Argentina, Diego Maradona remains, for many, the country's ultimate soccer icon after captaining the national team to the 1986 World Cup title.

And for the past 15 years or so, Messi has had a personal rivalry with Cristiano Ronaldo just to establish himself as the finest player of his generation.

Competition is fierce when it comes to determining the greatest of all time, or the GOAT, as it has come to be known.

It can come down to the smallest of margins that separate players of such brilliance.

Messi's failure to win the



Argentina's Lionel Messi kisses the trophy after winning the World Cup final soccer match between Argentina and France at the Lusail Stadium in Lusail, Qatar, Sunday, Dec. 18, 2022. Argentina won 4-2 in a penalty shootout after the match ended tied 3-3.

Associated Press

sport's biggest prize has always counted against him when measuring his achievements against Pele and Maradona. The same goes for Ronaldo.

Messi is a seven-time winner of the Ballon d'Or award for the best player in the world and lifted club soccer's biggest prize, the Champions League trophy, on four occasions. He ended his wait for a first major trophy with his country at last year's Copa America.

Yes, he was part of the Argentina team that lost to Germany 1-0 in the 2014 final, but the magic he produced game in, game out during his peak years for Barcelona never seemed to translate when wearing the blue and white stripes of his country.









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Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

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If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

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Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000** / **ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website watersedge-aruba.com

